

IN THE SPECIFICATION

At page 20, line 2, please delete "20" and substitute --22-- therefor.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11 as follows:

SUB B17

1. (Amended) A computer-implemented substitute fulfillment system that identifies and secures substitute workers for a plurality of different organizations, comprising:

- a central server that process information associated with a plurality of different unaffiliated organizations;
- a central database coupled to the central server, the central database including records that store substitute fulfillment data associated with each of the plurality of different organizations, wherein for each of the different organizations the fulfillment data includes worker records representing workers that may be absent from the organization and substitute worker records representing substitute workers that may be used to fill the position of absent workers;
- a plurality of local processors that are remote from the central server, each of the local processors being associated with one of the different organizations and having a separate local database coupled thereto, wherein each local database is associated with one of the different organizations and includes worker records representing workers that may be absent from the organization and substitute worker records representing substitute workers that may be used to fill a position of an absent worker;
- wherein the central database maintains each of the records on each local database in parallel with a corresponding record on the central database by periodically updating the records on the local databases in response to data changes on the central database, and wherein each local database maintains records on the central database in parallel with corresponding records on the

local database by periodically updating the records on the central database[s] in response to data changes on the local database;

at least one [telephone]communication link coupled to the central server, wherein the [telephone] communication link provides information representing absent workers to the central server, the central server automatically identifies one or more of the substitute workers in response to the information representing the absent workers, and the central server automatically communicates information representing positions to be filled to substitute workers identified by the central server via [the] a telephone communication link or an internet communication link; and

wherein the central server periodically transmits reports that include absentee and substitute information to each of the different organizations via the telephone communication link or the internet communication link.

In claim 6, line 2; claim 9, line 3; and claim 10, line 3, please delete "telephone".

In claim 7, line 1, please delete "9" and substitute --1-- therefor.

In claim 11, line 2, before "database" please insert --central--.

Please delete claims 5 and 13-36.

#### REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 6-12 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicant regards as the invention. Claims and 13-36 have been canceled.